

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUADAL 00670 302322Z

11

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 SCCT-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

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FM AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2039

UNCLAS GUADALAJARA 0670

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS MX

SUBJ: KIDNAPPING OF PRESIDENT OF MEXICO'S FATHER-IN-LAW

BEGIN SUMMARY:

A NEW LEFT-WING GROUP, THE "ARMED REVOLUTIONARY PEOPLES' FRONT", HAS TAKEN CREDIT FOR THE KIDNAPPING ON AUGUST 28, OF JOSE GUADALUPE ZUNO HERNANDEZ, THE FATHER-IN-LAW OF MEXICO'S PRESIDENT, LUIS ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ. ZUNO'S KIDNAPPING HAS CAUSED WIDESPREAD CONSTERNATION AMONG ALL SECTORS OF GUADALAJARA'S POPULACE. POLICE EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE CASE ARE INTENSIVE. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS INDICATE RANSOM DEMANDS OF ABOUT US 1.6 MILLION, THE RELEASE FROM MEXICAN JAILS OF AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF PRISONERS PRESUMABLY TO BE FLOWN TO CUBA, AND THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA. THE OLDEST ZUNO SON, VICENTE, HAS CHARGED THAT THE KIDNAPPING WAS THE WORK OF NORTH AMERICAN IMPERIALIST AGENTS THAT HAVE INFILTRATED THE LOCAL UNIVERSITIES. END SUMMARY.

1. JOSE GUADALUPE ZUNO HERNANDEZ, 83, FATHER-IN-LAW OF THE PRESIDENT OF MEXICO, WAS KIDNAPPED BY FOUR YOUNG MEN ALLEGED TO BE MEMBERS OF THE "ARMED REVOLUTIONARY PEOPLES' FRONT" (FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIO ARMADO DEL PUEBLO), AT APPROXIMATELY 9:15 ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 28, 1974.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GUADAL 00670 302322Z

2. THE FOUR HEAVILY-ARMED KIDNAPPERS TOOK CONTROL OF ZUNO'S

CAR AFTER SUBDUING HIS CHAUFFEUR IN FRONT OF HUNDREDS OF PASSERSBY OUTSIDE OF THE WORK SHOPS OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUADALAJARA AND TRANSFERRED 4 BLOCKS AWAY TO A 1966 GREY FORD FALCON WITHOUT LICENSE PLATES.

3. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S WIFE, MARIA ESTHER ZONO DE ECHEVERRIAA, HAS FLOWN TO GUADALAJARA TO BE PRESENT DURING THE COURSE OF EVENTS. THE POLICE HAVE ROADBLOCKED THE CITY AND ARE CHECKING VEHICLES LEAVING GUADALAJARA. THE CITY IS BUZZING WITH INDIGNATION AND RUMORS. ZUNO'S OLDEST SON, VICENTE, ANNOUNCED IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW ON AUGUST 29 :HIS BELIEF THAT THE ACT WAS MOTIVATED BY "AMERRICAN IMPERIALISTS" WHO HAD INFILTRATED THE CITY'S UNIVERSITIES..

4. ZUNO, PERHAPS GUADALAJARA'S MOST ILLUSTIOUS RESIDENT, IS A FORMER JALISCO STATE GOVERNOR, FOUNDER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAADALAJARA, WRITER AND HISTORIAN. HE WAS RECENTLY NAMED TO BE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT OF THE JALISCO DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL ELECTRICITY COMMISSION.

5. THERE ARE FEARS THAT THE OUTCOME OF THIS KIDNAPPIING MAY BE IDENTICAL TO THAT OF PEDRO SARQUIS IN JUNE WHEN THAT ELDERLY FAMILY PATRIARCH DIED OF A HEART ATTACK AFTER A 3 MILLION PESOS RANSOM HAD BEEN PAID. (SEE GUADALLAJARA A-28 OF JUNE 10, 1974). THE ZUNO FAMILY HAS BROADCAST THEE NECESSARY DIET AND MEDICINES THAT THE ELDER ZUNO REQUIRES TO STAY ALIVE.

6. THE "INFORMADOR" NEWSPAPER OF AUGUST 30 REPORTS THAT AT LEAST THREE PERSONS HAVE BEEN DETAINED BY THE POLICE FOR QUESTIONING. TWO OF THEM ARE FORMER EMPLOYEEES OF THE ZUNO FAMILY. THE SAME ARTICLE INDICATES THAT TWO BROTHERS, ALFREDO AND JOSE CARLOS CAMPANA LOPEZ, AND AN ENGINEER, HECTOR GUILLERMO ROBLES GARNICA, WERE THE INTELLECTUAL AUTHORS OF THE KIDNAPPING. THESE THREE WERE SENT TO CUBA FROM MEXICAN PRISONS AS A RESULT OF THE MAY, 1973, LEONHARDY KIDNAPPING HERE. FURTHERMORE, IT IS ALLEGED THAT DEMANDS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE AUTHORITIES FOR THE RELEASE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GUADAL 00670 302322Z

OF AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF PRISONERS, INCLUDING FRANSICCO JUVENTINO CAMPANA LOPEZ AND RUBEN RAMIREZ GONZALEZ JAILED FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE LEONHARDY KIDNAPPING. IN ADDITION, A RANSOM OF 20 MILLION PESOS (US 1.6 MILLION) AND THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ARE REPORTED TO BE AMONG THE KIDNAPPERS' DEMANDS. EEL DIARIO OF AUGUST 30 GIVES CREDIT TO THE 23RD OF SEPTEMBER COMMUNIST LEAGUE FOR THIS INCIDENT.

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